

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

STREAMING MECHANISMS FOR EFFICIENT SEARCHING OF A TREE RELATIVE TO A LOCATION IN THE TREE

A system and method for processing documents, comprises steps of: receiving a query comprising search criteria and wherein the criteria comprise a set of constraints that specify forward or backward relations between nodes; receiving a location in the tree with respect to which the query must be evaluated; receiving at least a portion of a document; modifying the search criteria such that constraints specifying a backward relation may be reformulated into constraints specifying a forward relation and introducing a context node at a location along a forward edge origination at the root of the tree structure; processing the document using the modified criteria; and locating one or more nodes that satisfy the search criteria.

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